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PATENT
Docket No. 52355US014
(formerly 52355USA9B.014)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Bull et al.

Group Art Unit: 1772

Serial No.: 09/759,986

Examiner: Nasser Ahmad

Filed: January 12, 2001

For: MULTI-COMPONENT UNIDIRECTIONAL GRAPHIC ARTICLE

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SECOND DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

I, Sally J. Bull, declare and say as follows:

1. I am a named inventor on the above-identified U.S. Patent Application No. 09/759,986, filed January 12, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/094,896, filed June 15, 1998, entitled MULTI-COMPONENT UNIDIRECTIONAL GRAPHIC ARTICLE.
2. I am a named inventor on PCT Publication WO 97/43128, entitled PROTECTIVE CLEAR LAYER FOR IMAGES (referred to hereinafter as "the Bull PCT application"), a document cited in support of various rejections in the parent case (the '896 application). As a named inventor, I am aware of the subject matter discussed in this PCT application, including that subject matter found in the "Background" section.
3. I have read the Office Actions of Application No. 09/759,986 dated February 14, 2000 and September 12, 2000, as well as the Advisory Action dated November 28, 2000. I have read and am familiar with the Office Action dated May 10, 2002 issued in the present Application No. 09/759,986. I make this Declaration in support of the patentability of the claims of the present application.

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Second Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

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Serial No.: 09/759,986

Confirmation No.: 3145

Filed: 12 January 2001

For: MULTI-COMPONENT UNIDIRECTIONAL GRAPHIC ARTICLE

4. It is asserted in the May 10, 2002 Office Action that my previous declaration "is insufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 1-24 and 31-35 based upon 35 USC (a) [sic] rejection over Andriash in view of Bull [WO-97/43128] as set forth in the last Office action because: Ms. Sally Bull fails to present facts as to how is [sic] the cover layer, in WO-97/43128 reference, is releasably held onto a release liner in the absence of PSA." See Office Action, Para. 4, p. 3, May 10, 2002.

5. I believe that one of ordinary skill working in the field of adhesive graphic articles would know of various methods for releasably securing a liner or "scrim" such as that shown in WO-97/43128 to a hot melt adhesive in the absence of a pressure sensitive adhesive (PSA). Release liners may be secured directly to hot melt adhesive layers (in the absence of a PSA) by, for example, casting a hot melt adhesive directly onto the liner or fusing a liner and hot melt adhesive together under suitable conditions of temperature and pressure. Other mechanisms such as, e.g., electrostatic forces may also be used to secure a release liner to a hot melt adhesive layer.

6. Based on this information and the information attested to in my previous declaration (executed April 4, 2001), it is my opinion that one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that the overlaminates discussed in the "Background" section of the Bull PCT application are directed to a clear film having an adhesive (either PSA or hot melt) on only one side with a removable liner to protect the adhesive until use.

7. I further declare that statements made herein of my knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Dated: 20 March 2003By: Sally Bull
Sally J. Bull

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Fourth Edition

Sybil P. Parker

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On the cover: Pattern produced from white light by a computer-generated diffraction plate containing 529 square apertures arranged in a 23 x 23 array. (R. B. Hoover, Marshall Space Flight Center)

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showing a specific end apparatus arranged in a punctate manner and connected with the pressure sense. { 'presh-ər pɔɪnt }

pressure process [CHEM ENG] Treatment of timber to prevent decay by forcing a preservative such as creosote and zinc chloride into the cells of the wood. { 'presh-ər pɹɛs-əs }

pressure radius [PETRO ENG] The effective radius of increased reservoir pressure surrounding a water-injection well. { 'presh-ər ˈræd-i-əs }

pressure rating [ENG] The operating (allowable) internal pressure of a vessel, tank, or piping used to hold or transport liquids or gases. { 'presh-ər ˈræd-ɪŋ }

pressure-regulating valve [ENG] A valve that releases or holds process-system pressure (that is, opens or closes) either by preset spring tension or by actuation by a valve controller to assume any desired position between full open and full closed. { 'presh-ər ˈrɛg-yʊ-lād-ɪŋ vɔlv }

pressure regulator [ENG] Open-close device used on the vent of a closed, gas-pressured system to maintain the system pressure within a specified range. { 'presh-ər ˈrɛg-yʊ-lād-ər }

pressure release [GEOPHYS] The outward-expanding force of pressure which is released within rock masses by unloading, as by erosion of superincumbent rocks or by removal of glacial ice. { 'presh-ər rɪ-lēz }

pressure-release jointing [GEOL] Exfoliation that occurs in once deeply buried rock that erosion has brought nearer the surface, thus releasing its confining pressure. { 'presh-ər rɪ-lēz ˈdʒɔɪntɪŋ }

pressure relief [ENG] A valve or other mechanical device (such as a rupture disk) that eliminates system overpressure by allowing the controlled or emergency escape of liquid or gas from a pressured system. { 'presh-ər rɪ-lēf }

pressure relief device [MECH ENG] 1. In pressure vessels, a device designed to open in a controlled manner to prevent the internal pressure of a component or system from increasing beyond a specified value, that is, a safety valve. 2. A spring-loaded machine part which will yield, or deflect, when a predetermined force is exceeded. { 'presh-ər rɪ-lēf dɪ-vɪs }

pressure relief valve [MECH ENG] A valve which relieves pressure beyond a specified limit and recloses upon return to normal operating conditions. { 'presh-ər rɪ-lēf vɔlv }

pressure resistance [FL MECH] In fluid dynamics, a normal stress caused by acceleration of the fluid, which results in a decrease in pressure from the upstream to the downstream side of an object acting perpendicular to the boundary. Also known as pressure drag. { 'presh-ər rɪ-zɪstəns }

pressure-retaining member [MECH ENG] That part of a pressure-relieving device loaded by the restrained pressurized fluid. { 'presh-ər rɪ-tān-ɪŋ mɛm-bər }

pressure ridge [GEOL] 1. A seismic feature resulting from transverse pressure and shortening of the land surface. 2. An elongate upward movement of the congealing crust of a lava flow. 3. A ridge of glacier ice. [OCEANOGR] A ridge or wall of hummocks where one ice floe has been pressed against another. { 'presh-ər rɪdʒ }

pressure ring [MIN ENG] A ring about a large excavated area, evidenced by distortion of the openings near the main excavation. { 'presh-ər rɪŋ }

pressure-rise center [METEOROL] A point of maximum increase in atmospheric pressure over a specified interval of time; on synoptic charts, a point of maximum positive pressure tendency. Also known as anallorbaric center; center of rises; isallorbaric high; isallorbaric maximum. { 'presh-ər ˈrɪz sɛn-tər }

pressure roll [ENG] In plastics-extrusion coating, the roll that with the chill roll applies pressure to the substrate and the molten extruded web. { 'presh-ər ˈrɒl }

pressure seal [ENG] A seal used to make pressure-proof the interface (contacting surfaces) between two parts that have frequent or continual relative rotational or translational motion. { 'presh-ər sɛl }

pressure-sensitive adhesive [MATER] An adhesive that develops maximum bonding power when applied by a light pressure only. { 'presh-ər ˈsɛnsəd-ɪv əd'hɛ-sɪv }

pressure shadow [PETR] In structural petrology, an area adjoining a porphyroblast, characterized by a growth fabric rather than a deformation fabric, as seen in a section perpendicular to the *b* axis of the fabric. Also known as pressure fringe; strain shadow. { 'presh-ər ˈshad-ō }

pressure shift [SPECT] An increase in the wavelength at

which a spectral line has maximum intensity, which takes place when pressure is increased. { 'presh-ər ʃɪft }

pressure solution [PETR] In a sedimentary rock, solution occurring preferentially at the grain boundary surfaces. Also known as pressolution. { 'presh-ər sɔːl-yū-shən }

pressure-stabilized [AERO ENG] Referring to membrane type structures that require internal pressure for maintenance of a stable structure. { 'presh-ər ˈstā-bə-līzd }

pressure still [CHEM ENG] A continuous-flow, petroleum refinery still in which heated oil (liquid and vapor) is kept under pressure so that it will crack (decompose into smaller molecules) to produce lower-boiling products (pressure distillate or pressure naphtha). { 'presh-ər stɪl }

pressure storage [ENG] The storage of a volatile liquid or liquefied gas under pressure to prevent evaporation. { 'presh-ər stɔr-ɪdʒ }

pressure suit [AERO ENG] A garment designed to provide pressure upon the body so that respiratory and circulatory functions may continue normally, or nearly so, under low-pressure conditions such as occur at high altitudes or in space without benefit of a pressurized cabin. { 'presh-ər suɪt }

pressure suppression See vapor suppression. { 'presh-ər sʌp-rɛsh-ən }

pressure surface See potentiometric surface. { 'presh-ər sʌr-fas }

pressure-surface map See potentiometric map. { 'presh-ər sʌr-fas ˈmæp }

pressure survey [MIN ENG] A study to determine the pressure distribution or pressure losses along consecutive lengths or sections of a ventilation circuit. [PETRO ENG] The measurement of static bottomhole pressures in an oil field with producing wells shut in for a time interval sufficient for reservoir pressure buildup to stabilize. { 'presh-ər sʌr-veɪ }

pressure switch [ELEC] A switch that is actuated by a change in pressure of a gas or liquid. { 'presh-ər swɪtʃ }

pressure system [ENG] Any system of pipes, vessels, tanks, reactors, and other equipment, or interconnection thereof, operating with an internal pressure greater than atmospheric. [METEOROL] An individual cyclonic-scale feature of atmospheric circulation, commonly used to denote either a high or a low, less frequently a ridge or a trough. { 'presh-ər sɪstəm }

pressure tank [CHEM ENG] A pressurized tank into which timber is inserted for impregnation with preservative. [MIN ENG] An airtight water tank in which air is compressed to exert pressure on the water and which is used in connection with a water distribution system. { 'presh-ər tæŋk }

pressure tap [ENG] A small perpendicular hole in the wall of a pressurized, fluid-containing pipe or vessel; used for connection of pressure-sensitive elements for the measurement of static pressures. Also known as piezometer opening; static pressure tap. { 'presh-ər tæp }

pressure tendency [METEOROL] The character and amount of atmospheric pressure change for a 3-hour or other specified time ending at the time of observation. Also known as barometric tendency. { 'presh-ər ˈtɛnd-ən-si }
pressure-tendency chart See pressure-change chart. { 'presh-ər ˈtɛnd-ən-si ˈtʃɑrt }

pressure tensor [PL PHYS] A tensor which plays a role in magnetohydrodynamics analogous to that of the pressure in ordinary fluid mechanics. { 'presh-ər ˈtɛnsər }

pressure thrust [AERO ENG] In rocketry, the product of the cross-sectional area of the exhaust jet leaving the nozzle exit and the difference between the exhaust pressure and the ambient pressure. { 'presh-ər θrʌst }

pressure topography See height pattern. { 'presh-ər ˈtɒp-ɒgrəfi }

pressure transducer [ENG] An instrument component that detects a fluid pressure and produces an electrical signal related to the pressure. Also known as electrical pressure transducer. { 'presh-ər ˈtranz-dyूस-ər }

pressure-travel curve [MECH] Curve showing pressure plotted against the travel of the projectile within the bore of a weapon. { 'presh-ər ˈtrav-əl kʌrv }

pressure traverse [PETRO ENG] Measurement of reservoir pressures at progressive depths. { 'presh-ər ˈtrɒv-əs }

pressure treater [CHEM ENG] Any chemical treating device operated at higher-than-atmospheric pressure, as in the ethylene and petroleum industries. { 'presh-ər ˈtri-tər }

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